

ECONOMICALLY ACTIVE POPULATION UP TO 8.4 MN

By the third quarter of 2018, the estimated economically active population in Sri Lanka was about 8.4 million in the third quarter 2018 of which 64.7 percent were males and 35.3 percent were females.

The economically inactive population was about 7.8 million. Out of the economically inactive population 26.1 percent were males and 73.9 percent were females, the quarterly report of Sri Lanka Labour Force Survey published by the Department of Census and Statistics stated.

According to the survey, male participation to the labour force was always higher than that of female. The highest participation rate for male was reported from the age group 30-34 years (97.0%), while that for female was reported from the 45-49 age groups (48.3%).

During third quarter of 2018, the total number of employed persons in Sri Lanka was estimated at about 8 million. Of which, about 46 percent engaged in service sector, 28.7 percent in industries sector and 25.3 percent in Agriculture sector. Compared to third quarter 2017, in third quarter 2018, a slight increase in Agriculture employment can be observed. **To page v**